

Remarks

Applicants have amended the claims in this response by canceling claims 1-15, 17-21 and 23-24. Claims 16 and 22 have been amended. Claims 16, 22, 25 and 26 are pending.

Rejection under 35 USC § 112 First Paragraph

Claims 16 and 22 have been amended to overcome the rejection presented in the November 23, 2006 Communication on pages 4-7. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC § 102(a)

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Funk et al taken with Srivastava, Leverero et al or Kufe et al.

Applicants have amended claim 16 to recite a recombinant virus which comprises a nucleic acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 which encodes an antisense RNA which inhibits expression of p53.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Michalovitz et al taken with Srivastava, Leverero et al or Kufe et al.

Applicants have amended claim 16 to recite a recombinant virus which comprises a nucleic acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 which encodes an antisense RNA which inhibits expression of p53.

In light of this amendment, Applicants submit that this rejection has been overcome, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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